

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In the Official Action, claims 1 - 9 stand subject to an election of species under 35 USC 121, as follows:

- A) an alleged species I, illustrated by Figures 1-4;
- B) an alleged species II, illustrated by Figures 5-9;
- C) an alleged species III, illustrated by Figures 10-11; and
- D) an alleged species IV, illustrated by Figures 112-17.

In response, Applicant elects the invention of the alleged species III as illustrated by Figures 10-11. At least claims 1, 2, 3 and 6 read on the elected species. Since claim 2 has been identified by the Examiner as being generic, and all of the unelected claims depend from generic claim 2, Applicant has not cancelled them pending substantive review of generic claim 2. Applicant expressly reserves the right to prosecute the non-elected subject matter in related applications, if necessary.

An Information Disclosure Statement with the fee as required under §1.97(c) is being filed concurrently with this response. Applicant requests that the Information Disclosure Statement be entered and considered by the Examiner at the substantive examination of claims 1, 2, 3 and 6.

In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully submits that at least claims 1, 2, 3, and 6, are in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration is therefore requested.

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Reply to Office action of March 23, 2003

If a telephone conference would be of assistance in advancing prosecution of the above-identified application, Applicant's undersigned Attorney invites the Examiner to telephone him at 717-237-5516.

Respectfully submitted,

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